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CLASSIFICATION

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REPORT

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION FROM

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

CD NO.

COUNTRY

China

DATE OF

INFORMATION

DATE DIST.

1950

Jul 1950

SUBJECT

Sociological; Economic

HOW

Daily newspaper

WHERE

PUBLISHED

PUBLISHED New York NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE

PUBLISHED

3 Jul 1950

SUPPLEMENT TO

LANGUAGE

Chinese

REPORT NO.

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SOURCE

Hua-ch'iao Jih-pao.

GIVES SUMMARY OF LAND-REFORM LAW

Hong Kong, 30 June -- The Land-Reform Law of the People's Republic of China, which will directly affect the destinies of the vast majority of the people of China, was promulgated today. The gist of the law is as follows:

- 1. Regardless of the size, land being tilled by the owner himself will not be affected by this law.
- 2. A person who does not cultivate his own land, but who must rely on the rent from the land as a supplementary income to maintain his living, will be permitted to retain an area of land equal to twice the average land to be distributed to an individual as set by law.
- 3. Families who have no members capable of farming their own land will be permitted to rent out an area of land equal to three times the land to be distributed to an individual as set by law. The above principle is also applicable to those who can prove that their land has been purchased with the income derived from their own labor.
- 4. Rich farmers who hire labor to till their land will be permitted to retain their land. In most areas, moreover, these farmers will be permitted to retain an area of land to be rented. Such lands, however, will be limited to an area equal to that which they themselves farm.
- 5. Land of landlords who do not cultivate their lands will be distributed equally to the poor farmers. The landlord himself will be given his equal share.
- 6. Nonagricultural wealth of landlords will not be confiscated. Encouragement will be given to the landlords to invest their capital in industry and commerce. Industrial property of the landlords will not be disturbed. However, their agricultural wealth, such as land, farming equipment, domestic animals used for farming, grain surpluses, etc., will be subject to confiscation.

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- 7. The agricultural lands of religious organizations and government agencies will be taken over. Local authorities will make provisions for the needs of schools, orphanages, old people's homes, and hospitals which have heretofore been dependent on rent incomes from these properties.
- 8. Mechanized farms operated by the owner himself will not be disturbed. If they are rented, however, they will become government property.
- 9. The land that a person receives in the land distribution may be sold or rented out.
- 10. People's courts will be set up throughout the country to try land cases. Any person opposing the land-reform program and wicked landlords will be brought before these courts for public trial.

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